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Jordan

Grain and Feed

Semi Annual Update

2005

Approved by:
Asif J. Chaudhry
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:
Hala Y. Khoury and Fred Giles

Report Highlights:
Favorable rainfall in 2004/2005 is expected to lead to gains in winter and summer crop production.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Amman [JO1]
[JO]

I. Summary

In MY 2004/2005 the rainfall season was characterized by favorable rains that were well distributed over the various regions of the country. Winter and summer crop production is expected to benefit greatly from the abundance of rain. Heavy rains during March/early April improved prospects for 2005 winter grains.

II. Impact of the 2004/2005 Rainfall Season on the Agricultural Production

- Field Crops

Production of Winter field crops (wheat and barley) improved due to favorable rains between November 2004 and April 2005. The table below shows a comparison between areas planted with wheat and barley in MY 2003/2004 and 2004/2005. It also shows production estimates for the two periods.

Commodity	Planted Areas in (HA)		Production (MT	
	2003/2004	2004/2005	2003/2004	2004/2005
Wheat	13,000	55,000	15,000	50,000
Barley	9,000	73,000	8,000	20,000

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

- Tree Fruit

The rains have positively affected tree fruit production which is expected to increase in most regions by 50 percent.

- Vegetables and Summer Crops

Productivity is expected to increase by 10 percent.

- Ranges and Fodder

Natural ranges (fodder shrubs and natural grass) benefited from the rainfall, especially in the Eastern and Southern regions, which constitute major fodder sources for about 60-70 percent of the country's total flocks.

- Livestock

The favorable rainfall conditions that prevailed this year, especially in the southern and eastern Badia (semi-desert areas), positively affected animal health and productivity. This is particularly the case with sheep, which constitute 70 percent of the total livestock flock in the country and depend mainly on natural rangelands.

- Dam Water

Total capacity for dam water is 217,939,000 cubic meters. Reserves currently stand at 65 percent which will positively affect the irrigated agricultural sector. However, restrictions on water use for agriculture during the summer season will continue. (Source: Ministry of Water and Irrigation).

III. Food and Animal Feed Situation

Jordan's wheat production in years with normal rainfall is estimated at 40 – 60,000 tons annually. Production during MY 2004/2005 is estimated at approximately 50,000 tons due to favorable rains. Jordan's wheat import requirement is estimated at 600,000 – 700,000 tons annually, of which 136,000 tons is available in stock. During 2005, USDA will provide Jordan

with 110,000 tons of wheat under the PL480 Title I program. Jordan also is eligible to use the GSM-102 program for up to $50 million.

Jordan's barley production during MY 2004/2005 is estimated at 20,000 metric tons. The total annual barley requirement is estimated at 600,000 tons, approximately 70,000 metric tons are available in stock. The GOJ is the sole importer of barley since the price for selling to livestock producers is fixed by the GOJ.

Jordan has no rice production and its annual requirements are around 100,000 metric tons of medium and long grain, 90 percent of which is medium grain. Private sector companies are free to import rice.

Jordan has no corn production and its annual requirements are around 400,000 metric tons. Jordanian private sector companies import corn freely.